

**Pocatello Field Office, NEPA Notice
(New Projects or Actions this Quarter)**

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Date: June 10, 2004 NEPA Document Type: Documentation of NEPA Adequacy NEPA No.: ID-075-2004-019

Project Name: Dairy Syncline Exploration Plan Modification

Project Type: Drill Plan Modification

Project/Case File No.: IDI-28115

Project Size/Units: 87 acres

Project Leader (Contact): James Blair

Phone No.: 208-478-6384

Field Office: Pocatello

County(ies): Caribou

Location: Portions of T8S, R44E, Sections 4, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 32, and 33.

Projected Decision Record Date: 06/10/04

WSA Name/No.: No WSA

Special Management (NCA, ACEC, SRMA, W&SR, INEL, Activity Plan, WSA, Haz Mat Site): Harrington Peak IRA.

DEQ Water Quality Limited Streams: Slug Creek

Other Perennial Streams: None

Distance (in Miles) to Nearest Perennial Stream: Slug Creek ~ ¼ mile from lease boundary

Potential Impact to Ground/Surface Water: Minimal potential of impacts from sediment. Minimal potential for ground water impact.

Surface Management Quad Map(s) Name: Soda Springs

Topographic Map(s) Name: Harrington Peak, Dry Valley

Need for and Description of Project:

Need: The purpose of the project is to collect adequate subsurface data to characterize a phosphate deposit. The proponent wishes to modify an approved exploration plan to gather sufficient geologic, environmental and economic data regarding the grade and chemistry of phosphate ore and waste rock. Preliminary drilling results indicated that certain proposed hole locations provide better information if relocated. 12 additional holes are required where new information shows gaps in original exploration proposal. Other holes have been dropped from the plan. Certain physical barriers not visible on the topographic map scale make it infeasible in places to use overland travel and road construction may be needed in lieu of overland travel. Overland travel will still be done where feasible. Roads would need to be constructed in order to reach the new and relocated hole locations.

Description: The J.R. Simplot Company has requested a modification to its approved Dairy Syncline Exploration Drilling Project on I-28115, EA# ID-075-2003-11. The proposed modification takes place on Dairy Syncline Federal Phosphate Lease I-28115, which is on the Caribou National Forest, approximately 12 miles east of Soda Springs. The approved 2003 exploration plan allowed the construction of 379 drill holes and 122,500 feet of road over three years. The total amount of disturbance was estimated at approximately 78.8 acres. Overall, Simplot would like to increase the number of drill holes by 3% and the amount of surface disturbance by approximately 10% increase in disturbance. The proposed modification would add a total of 12 drill holes, and approximately 23,700 feet of new drill roads, and approximately 3,900 feet of reopened existing roads. Much of the "new" roads are in fact overland travel reclassified as roads. This disturbance is proposed to take place during the summer and fall of 2004 and 2005. All original conditions of approval and mitigation measure would be required. No additional off-lease disturbance is required. No mining is proposed in this project.

Date: July 27, 2004 NEPA Document Type: Categorical Exclusion (CE) NEPA No.: ID-075-2004-20

Project Name: Astaris I-015097 20 –Year Statutory Lease Readjustment.

Project Type: Federal Phosphate Lease Readjustment

Project/Case File No.: I-015097

Project Size/Units: 759.38 Acres

Project Leader (Contact): James Blair

Phone No.: 208-234-7847

Field Office: Pocatello, Idaho

County(ies): Caribou County

Legal Description ***

Boise Meridian

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T.07S., R.44E, Sec. 31, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; Lots 1, 2

T.08S., R.44E, Sec. 05, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

T.08S., R.44E, Sec. 06, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; Lot 2

T.08S., R.44E, Sec. 08, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Projected Decision Record Date: 09/01/04

WSA Name/No.: None

Special Management (NCA, ACEC, SRMA, W&SR, INEL, Activity Plan, WSA, Haz Mat Site): Comprehensive Environmental Response and Liability Act site

DEQ Water Quality Limited Streams: Dry Valley Creek

Other Perennial Streams:

Distance (in Miles) to Nearest Perennial Stream: 0

Potential Impact to Ground/Surface Water: None from lease readjustment

Surface Management Quad Map(s) Name: Soda Springs 1:100,000

Topographic Map(s) Name: Dry Valley

Need for and Description of Project:

BLM is the agency in charge of administering Federal Leasable Mineral Estate, in this case phosphate. In this case there are portions of the federal leases (see above) which lie beneath a combination of Federal (BLM), State and private surface ownership. The purpose of project is to update and modify the terms, conditions and stipulations of the phosphate leases on a twenty year basis, as required by law. If the lease is not readjusted as of 09/01/04 the existing lease terms established twenty years ago will remain in effect. This lease forms a portion of the Dry Valley Mine. This lease was originally issued in 1964. Readjustment of this does not result in additional disturbance not previously authorized. Any additional disturbance would require additional NEPA. Additionally the lease readjustments will not authorize changes to the size or boundaries of the lease (i.e. a lease modification). Such activities would require additional NEPA documentation.

Date: July 27, 2004 NEPA Document Type: CE NEPA No.: ID-075-2004-21

Project Name: P 4 (Monsanto) Enoch Valley I-015122 20 –Year Statutory Lease Readjustment.

Project Type: Federal Phosphate Lease Readjustment

Project/Case File No.: I-015122

Project Size/Units: 560 acres

Project Leader (Contact): James Blair

Phone No.: 208-234-7847

Field Office: Pocatello, Idaho

County(ies): Caribou County

Legal Description:

Boise Meridian

T.06S., R.43E, Sec. 21, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

T.06S., R.43E, Sec. 22, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

T.06S., R.43E, Sec. 27, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Projected Decision Record Date: 09/01/04

WSA Name/No.: None

Special Management (NCA, ACEC, SRMA, W&SR, INEL, Activity Plan, WSA, Haz Mat Site): CERCLA

DEQ Water Quality Limited Streams: None

Other Perennial Streams: Eventual tributary to Blackfoot

Distance (in Miles) to Nearest Perennial Stream: Unnamed tributary to Angus Creek 0 miles

Potential Impact to Ground/Surface Water: None from lease readjustment

Surface Management Quad Map(s) Name: Soda Springs 1:100,000

Topographic Map(s) Name: Lower Valley, Wayan West

Need for and Description of Project:

BLM is the agency in charge of administering Federal Leasable Mineral Estate, in this case phosphate. In this case there are portions of the lease (see above) which lie beneath a combination of Federal (USFS) and State surface estate. The purpose of project is to update and modify the terms, conditions and stipulations of the phosphate leases on a twenty year basis, as required by law. If the lease is not readjusted as of 09/01/04 the existing lease terms established 07/30/1986 will remain in effect until 2024. This lease forms a portion of Monsanto's Enoch Valley Mine. This lease was originally issued in 1964. Readjustment of this does not result in additional disturbance not

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previously authorized. Any additional disturbance would require additional NEPA. Additionally the lease readjustments will not authorize changes to the size or boundaries of the lease (i.e. a lease modification). Such activities would require additional NEPA documentation.

Date: August 30, 2004 NEPA Document Type: CE NEPA No.: ID-075-2004-022
Project Name: Paris Canyon Waterline Right Of Way (ROW)
Project Type: ROW
Project/Case File No.: IDI-34826
Project Size/Units: 0.30 acres
Project Leader (Contact): Becky Lazdauskas, Realty Specialist
Phone No.: (208)478-6357
Field Office: Pocatello
County(ies): Bear Lake
Township: 14 S. Range: 42 E. Sec.:12 S1/2SE1/4
Projected Decision Record Date: September 15, 2004
WSA Name/No.: N/A

Special Management (NCA, ACEC, SRMA, W&SR, INEL, Activity Plan, WSA, Haz Mat Site): N/A

DEQ Water Quality Limited Streams: N/A

Other Perennial Streams: Paris Creek

Distance (in Miles) to Nearest Perennial Stream: Approximately 800 ft

Potential Impact to Ground/Surface Water: N/A

Surface Management Quad Map(s) Name: PRESTON

Topographic Map(s) Name: Paris Peak Quad

Need for and Description of Project:

Need: The applicant would like a ROW to cross public land with a 1 ½ inch water pipeline. The pipeline originates at troughs on FS land (permit issued) and will cross the BLM and then supply overflow water to troughs on applicant's private land.

Description: The proposal is for an above ground pipeline. The pipeline would cross approximately 2640 ft of public land, with a ROW width of 5 ft. Minimal to no surface disturbance.

Date: August 30, 2004 NEPA Document Type: CE NEPA No.:ID-075-2004-023
Project Name: Dike Lake Campground Powerline ROW
Project Type: ROW
Project/Case File No.: IDI-34423
Project Size/Units: .120 acres
Project Leader (Contact): Becky Lazdauskas, Realty Specialist
Phone No.: (208)478-6357
Field Office: Pocatello
County(ies): Caribou
Township: 7 S. Range: 41 E. Sec.:1 E1/2NE1/4SE1/4
Township: 7 S. Range: 42 E. Sec.:6 Lot 5
Projected Decision Record Date: September 15, 2004
WSA Name/No.: N/A

Special Management (NCA, ACEC, SRMA, W&SR, INEL, Activity Plan, WSA, Haz Mat Site): N/A

DEQ Water Quality Limited Streams: N/A

Other Perennial Streams: N/A

Distance (in Miles) to Nearest Perennial Stream: N/A

Potential Impact to Ground/Surface Water: none, ROW located in existing road ROW

Surface Management Quad Map(s) Name: SODA HILLS

Topographic Map(s) Name: China Hat Quad

Need for and Description of Project:

Need: The BLM has requested PacifiCorp provide electric services to the proposed developments within BLM's Dike Lake Campground. This would require PacifiCorp to obtain a right-of-way to bury a powerline within the existing road across the dike and to into the BLM campground.

Description: The proposal is for a buried powerline. The powerline ROW would be approximately 1524 ft in length and 10 ft in width.

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Date: August 24, 2004 NEPA Document Type: CE NEPA No.: ID-075-2004-024
Project Name: Jerre Lee Evans Land Use Permit
Project Type: Land Use Permit
Project/Case File No.: IDI-29052
Project Size/Units: 37.2 acres
Project Leader (Contact): Becky Lazdauskas, Realty Specialist
Phone No.: (208) 478-6357
Field Office: Pocatello
County(ies): Power
Township: 10 S. Range: 34 E. Sec.:10 SESW
Township: 10 S. Range: 34 E. Sec.:15 NENW and SWNW
Projected Decision Record Date: September 1, 2004
WSA Name/No.: N/A

Special Management (NCA, ACEC, SRMA, W&SR, INEL, Activity Plan, WSA, Haz Mat Site): N/A
DEQ Water Quality Limited Streams: N/A
Other Perennial Streams: N/A

Distance (in Miles) to Nearest Perennial Stream: N/A

Potential Impact to Ground/Surface Water: N/A

Surface Management Quad Map(s) Name: POCATELLO

Topographic Map(s) Name: Bradley Mountain Quad

Need for and Description of Project:

Need: The applicant would like to renew this permit, which allows him to dryland farm approximately 37.20 acres of public land. This is an administrative transaction only, no further rights are being conveyed.

Description: The applicant has had a land use permit to farm 37.20 acres of public land. This would renew the permit for 3 more years.

Date: September 20, 2004 NEPA Document Type: CE NEPA No.: ID-075-2004-025
Project Name: Black Pine Mine Temporary Use Permit
Project Type: Temporary Use Permit
Project/Case File No.: IDI-34138 01
Project Size/Units: 0.30 acres
Project Leader (Contact): Bill Stout
Phone No.: (208)478-6367
Field Office: Pocatello
County(ies): Oneida
Township: 15 S. Range: 29 E. Sec.:25 SW1/4
Township: 15 S. Range: 29 E. Sec.:36 NW1/4
Projected Decision Record Date: October 1, 2004
WSA Name/No.: N/A

Special Management (NCA, ACEC, SRMA, W&SR, INEL, Activity Plan, WSA, Haz Mat Site): N/A

DEQ Water Quality Limited Streams: N/A

Other Perennial Streams:

Distance (in Miles) to Nearest Perennial Stream: approximately 1/2 mile

Potential Impact to Ground/Surface Water: N/A

Surface Management Quad Map(s) Name: MALAD CITY

Topographic Map(s) Name: Paris Peak Quad

Need for and Description of Project:

Need: In January 1998 (date) the Forest Service received an approval from BLM in a right-of-way grant to apply water slightly impacted from mining activities to land adjacent to the mine as part of the rehabilitation efforts. This action was previously assessed in the Land Application of Wasterwater at Closure Black Pine Mine Project Cassia County, Idaho Environmental Assessment. To ensure that rehabilitation occurs as anticipated and in response to a change in site conditions, the FS is now requesting a change to stipulation #4 of the original grant, which allows for a temporary change in discharge limits of certain elements. The same request was made to the State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (which has jurisdiction) on May 6, 2004. The DEQ approved the increases in discharge limits for cyanide, nitrate, and selenium as listed above.

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Date: September 23, 2004 NEPA Document Type: CE NEPA No.: ID-075-2004-026
Project Name: Lease Renewal—Idaho Wireless Corp.
Project Type: ROW
Project/Case File No.: IDI30067
Project Size/Units: 0.23
Project Leader (Contact): Bruce Bash
Phone No.: (208) 524-7521
Field Office: Pocatello
County(ies): Power
Township: 6 S. Range: 34 E. Sec.: 30
Projected Decision Record Date: October 2004
WSA Name/No.: N/A
Special Management (NCA, ACEC, SRMA, W&SR, INEL, Activity Plan, WSA, Haz Mat Site): Howard Mountain is a designated BLM-administered communication site.
DEQ Water Quality Limited Streams: N/A
Other Perennial Streams: N/A
Distance (in Miles) to Nearest Perennial Stream: two miles
Potential Impact to Ground/Surface Water: N/A
Surface Management Quad Map(s) Name: Pocatello
Topographic Map(s) Name: Michaud & Michaud Creek Quads
Need for and Description of Project:
Need: Idaho Wireless has a lease that will expire on October 10, 2004. The lease needs to be renewed.
Description: Proposed action is to renew Idaho Wireless Corporation's FM radio broadcast facility lease located on Howard Mountain. No on-the-ground changes would take place. The renewal would be a paperwork exercise only.

Date: September 23, 2004 NEPA Document Type: Environmental Assessment NEPA No.: ID-075-2004-027
Project Name: Chinese Peak Fiber Optic Cable Connection
Project Type: ROW
Project/Case File No.: IDI-34909
Project Size/Units: 0.28
Project Leader (Contact): Bruce Bash
Phone No.: (208) 524-7521
Field Office: Pocatello
County(ies): Bannock
Township: 6 S. Range: 35 E. Sec.: 33
Projected Decision Record Date: October 2004
WSA Name/No.: N/A
Special Management (NCA, ACEC, SRMA, W&SR, INEL, Activity Plan, WSA, Haz Mat Site): Chinese Peak is a designated BLM-administered communication site.
DEQ Water Quality Limited Streams: N/A
Other Perennial Streams: N/A
Distance (in Miles) to Nearest Perennial Stream: 1.5 miles
Potential Impact to Ground/Surface Water: insignificant
Surface Management Quad Map(s) Name: Pocatello
Topographic Map(s) Name: Inkom Quad
Need for and Description of Project:
Need: The State of Idaho and Bannock County need to upgrade their communication facilities on Chinese Peak.
Description: In order to implement a new, digital communication system, the State of Idaho and Bannock County need to install a new fiber optic cable and main switch between their existing communication sites on lots 4 & 9 of Chinese Peak. The right-of-way would connect the two sites and would be 20' in width and 600' in length. Both agencies would reduce costs by sharing the new digital system. The cable would be buried 18" deep and would require only two days to construct.